



How we determine field playability

- REMEMBER: Standing water occurs because the ground is saturated. Removing standing water does not eliminate the saturation. It is the saturation, and not standing water, that causes damage and unsafe conditions.
- Determining the playability of an athletic field is crucial to the continued health of the turf and the sustainability of the field throughout the season. The Department will close its athletic fields if park staff determines that fields are too wet for play, or if other issues arise that would compromise patron safety. Leagues organization users share in the responsibility to close fields for play when safety and/or field damage is possible.
- An athletic field should be considered closed for play if any part of the field becomes unsafe for field users or if conditions exist where use will cause damage to the field.
- An athletic field should be considered closed if any of the following conditions exist: There is standing water present on any part of the field that cannot be removed without causing damage to the field.
- There are muddy conditions present that will not dry by the start of the game.
- While walking on the field water can be seen or heard with any footstep.
- If water gathers around the sole of a shoe or boot on any portion of the field.
- While walking in turf areas any impression of your footprint is left in the surface.
- While walking on the infield portion of the field, an impression of ½" deep or more is left by a footprint.
- Current weather conditions do not necessarily determine field conditions. It may take at least 2-3 days for a field to become playable after heavy rains.
- Fields may also close due to dangerous conditions such as lightning or high winds. These decisions may be determined by the department or by the league organization members on site.
- To check current field status, please check the website www.moonparks.org or call the office at 412-262-1703 extension 10.